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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



VOLUME 63

NUMBER 14

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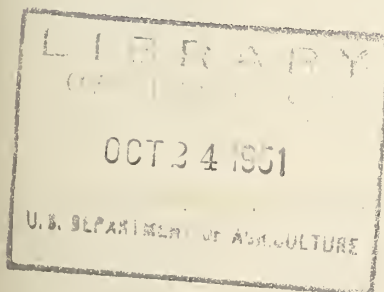
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FOR RELEASE

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OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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WORLD FLAXSEED PRODUCTION INCREASES SLIGHTLY

World flaxseed production during 1951 may show a slight increase from 1950 and the average prewar output. A preliminary estimate based on data available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations places the crop at about 135 million bushels compared with the revised estimate of 132 million in 1950 and the prewar average of 133.5 million. Increases in Canada and possibly Argentina, which more than offset the decreases in the United States and India, account principally for the indicated expansion from 1950.

Canada's flaxseed crop, currently placed at 9,895,000 bushels, is more than double the 1950 outturn of 4,686,000 bushels but represents only about 56 percent of the record high of 1948. Practically all of the increase is attributable to greater acreage--1,112,000 acres against 560,000 in 1950. The anticipated average yield in 1951 is 8.9 bushels per acre, compared with 8.4 in 1950 and the long-time average of 7.8. Favorable prices and the expectations of a continued heavy demand for flaxseed and its products are reported to have stimulated the increased plantings.

Carry-over stocks in all positions dropped sharply from 4.5 million bushels as of July 31, 1950, to 1.2 million on July 31 this year.

Mexico anticipates a crop of 1,575,000 bushels from 131,000 acres. This is a 10 percent increase in production and acreage from last year's harvest of 1,417,000 bushels and 119,000 acres.

Flaxseed production in the United States is now estimated at 34,959,000 bushels or 11 percent less than the 1950 crop of 39,263,000 bushels and 6 percent smaller than the 1940-49 average of 37,186,000 bushels. The indicated area for harvest is 3,696,000 acres, representing a 5 percent reduction from last year.

Stocks of flaxseed in all storage positions July 1, 1951, totaled 12,269,000 bushels compared with 16,998,000 a year earlier and 19,359,000 bushels on July 1, 1949.

The national average support price for 1952-crop flaxseed grading No. 1 will be \$3.77 per bushel. The price support for 1951-crop flaxseed is a national average of \$2.65 per bushel.

Total European flaxseed acreage appears to be up somewhat from recent years and production may exceed last year's outturn by 500,000 to 800,000 bushels. Sweden's crop may reach 1.9 million bushels against 1.6 million in 1950. Belgium and the Netherlands also indicate considerable expansion in output. On the other hand, sizeable decreases in acreage and production have occurred in Denmark and the United Kingdom.

Decreased plantings in Turkey--from 123,000 acres in 1950 to 106,000 this year--likely will result in an output smaller than the 1.1 million bushels produced in 1950.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| ASIA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Turkey 2/ | 48: | 183: | 164: | 123: | 106: | 7.3 | 9.8 | 12.4 | 8.9 | - | 349: | 1,795: | 2,042: | 1,100: | - |
| India 5/9/ | 3,885: | 3,977: | 3,761: | 3,759: | 3,503: | 4.7 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 18,096: | 17,240: | 16,920: | 16,440: | 15,400 |
| Pakistan 10/ | - | 74: | 74: | 80: | 66: | - | 7.0 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.1 | - | 520: | 480: | 520: | 400 |
| Japan 3/ | 50: | 63: | 49: | 42: | - | 4.2 | 3.5 | 3.2 | 4.3 | - | 211: | 219: | 156: | 177: | - |
| Total (excl. U.S.S.R. and China) g/ | 4,075: | 4,515: | 4,275: | 4,240: | 3,960: | - | - | - | - | - | 18,925: | 20,070: | 19,977: | 18,655: | 17,460 |
| SOUTH AMERICA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Argentina | 6,077: | 2,147: | 2,372: | 2,045: | 2,300: | 9.8 | 7.9 | 11.2 | 10.2 | 10.0 | 59,571: | 17,046: | 26,613: | 20,956: | 23,000 |
| Brazil | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 866: | 1,575: | 1,378: | - |
| Chile 3/ | 5: | 19: | 13: | 12: | - | 8.2 | 12.9 | 11.7 | 14.5 | - | 11/ 37: | 241: | 151: | 171: | 3,000 |
| Uruguay | 407: | 575:5/ | 395:5/ | 386:5/ | 358: | 9.6 | 8.0 | 7.4 | 9.2 | 8.4 | 3,74: | 4,596: | 2,938: | 3,543: | - |
| Total g/ | 6,570: | 2,830: | 2,960: | 2,595: | 2,820: | - | - | - | - | - | 64,035: | 22,750: | 31,280: | 26,050: | 27,520 |
| AFRICA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Algeria | - | 32: | 122: | 25: | 12: | - | 12.3 | 5.5 | 6.9 | 8.3 | - | 392: | 673: | 174: | 100 |
| Egypt 3/ | 7: | 22: | 21: | 5: | - | 12.4 | 14.0 | 19.6 | 11.8 | - | 87: | 312: | 409: | 59: | 79 |
| French Morocco | 51: | 146: | 318: | 104: | - | 7.1 | 9.9 | 7.5 | 5.3 | - | 362: | 1,443: | 2,382: | 551: | - |
| Tunisia | 1: | 32: | 148: | 32: | - | 5.6 | 6.5 | 5.7 | 6.4 | - | 4: | 209: | 839: | 205: | - |
| Total g/ | 65: | 350: | 775: | 370: | 340: | - | - | - | - | - | 500: | 3,100: | 5,530: | 2,525: | 2,440 |
| OCEANIA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia | 12/ | 15: | 29: | 58: | - | - | 7.3 | 9.3 | 6.2 | - | 12/ | 108: | 269: | 361: | - |
| New Zealand | 1: | 8: | 8: | 20: | - | 14.2 | - | - | 16.0 | - | 17: | - | - | 320: | - |
| Total g/ | 1: | 25: | 40: | 80: | 80: | - | - | - | - | - | 17: | 210: | 370: | 685: | 720 |
| World total | 19,570: | 19,990: | 19,910: | 18,990: | 19,340: | - | - | - | - | - | 133,500: | 149,215: | 142,160: | 131,770: | 124,840 |

1/ Harvests of the Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere countries in 1951 is combined with the Southern Hemisphere harvest which begins late in 1951 and ends early in 1952. Estimates do not include China where annual production probably varies from 1 to 2 million bushels. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Acreage includes area for fiber. 4/ Average of less than 5 years. 5/ Sown area. 6/ Flax and hemp. 7/ Yield per acre calculated on the basis of the yield of seed from acreage harvested for seed only. 8/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 9/ Officially reported figures plus Indian official estimates for unreported tracts except in the years 1948-51 inclusive, when no estimates for unreported tracts were available. 10/ Prior to 1948 figures for India include Pakistan. 11/ 1935 only. 12/ Less than 500 acres and 500 bushels.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

Unfavorable weather in some of the important producing areas was the principal factor in the reduction of India's estimated output to 15,400,000 bushels. This is 1 million bushels less than last year's crop and some 2.7 million less than the prewar average output. Pakistan's harvest of 400,000 bushels represents a decrease from 1950 of 100,000 bushels.

Preliminary estimates of flaxseed plantings in Argentina ranged from 2.5 to 3.5 million acres early in August. Conditions in Central Cordoba and Santa Fe Provinces, comprising the principal zone, had been decidedly unfavorable to that date. The area suffered from severe drought which threatened to curtail heavily the sowing of flaxseed. Total plantings depended upon the arrival of adequate rains. Favorable weather, however, was reported for other areas. On the basis of the above and assuming average abandonment, Argentina may be expected to harvest about 2.3 million acres late this year. Under favorable growing conditions, normal yields could result in a crop of around 23 million bushels. Last year's outturn has been revised to about 21 million bushels from 2 million harvested acres.

Exportable supplies of flaxseed and linseed oil were depleted by large shipments during the first half of 1951 and movement is expected to decline until the end of the year. With a relatively small carry-over next January 1 of possibly around 1.6 million bushels and the prospects of the new crop being only moderately, if any, larger than a year ago, the exportable supply of linseed oil in 1952 is expected to be at least 25 percent less than shipments this year and the quantities of flaxseed available for export probably will be negligible.

The nominal quotation for linseed oil early in August was 2,600 pesos per metric ton f.o.b. (\$472 per short ton). Flaxseed at that time was quoted at 1,300 pesos per metric ton (\$6.60 per bushel) 1/.

Brazil's 1951 flaxseed crop may be down from the 1,378,000 bushels harvested in 1950. Flaxseed acreage has been declining and recent price levels of flaxseed reportedly would be indicative of further reductions in the planted area.

Uruguay's 1951 acreage, based on farmers' intentions to plant, will probably total 358,000 acres or slightly less than the 386,000 planted in 1950. With normal growing conditions, a harvest of 3 million bushels would be possible. Last year's crop amounted to 3,543,000 bushels. Decreased plantings this season are due to: (1) the 3 percent larger wheat area and (2) the somewhat unfavorable international outlook for flaxseed and linseed oil prices.

1/ For a more detailed statement on the Argentine flaxseed situation see Foreign Agriculture Circular FFO 18-51, "Argentine Position on Oilseeds and Oilseed Products," August 31, 1951, obtainable from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

Movement of flaxseed into trade channels has been slow. As of mid-August only around 20 percent of the past crop had been sold to crushers and no seed had been shipped. Only 3,425 short tons of linseed oil were exported during the first 6 months of 1951. The British Ministry of Food is reported to have purchased 11,300 metric tons (12,456 short tons) of oil at between 165 and 167 pounds sterling per metric ton (\$419-\$424 per short ton) f.o.b. Montevideo, for August and September delivery. The Trade estimates that an additional 55,000 short tons of seed (or the oil equivalent) will be available for export this year.

In mid-August, crushers were offering 29 pesos per 100 kilograms (U.S. \$4.85 per bushel converted at the official export rate of 1.519 pesos per dollar) for flaxseed delivered to Montevideo.

Africa's flaxseed production is expected to show a further decrease this year following the sharp drop which occurred in 1950, primarily as a result of reductions in or removals of price supports. In Algeria flaxseed production decreased from 673,000 bushels in 1949 to 174,000 in 1950 and output this year is expected to drop possibly to 100,000 bushels since only 12,000 acres were planted.

In French Morocco acreage may remain stationary or even decrease since price supports have been abandoned. Production dropped from 2.4 million bushels in 1949 to 551,000 bushels last year. Likewise Tunisia's crop fell from 839,000 bushels to 205,000 in the same period. A further decline likely will occur this year.

Egypt's flaxseed production is a by-product of the flax fiber industry. Acreage varies according to local flax fiber market demands. Seed production this year is placed at 79,000 bushels against 59,000 in 1950 and 409,000 in 1949.

Reliable production estimates for Ethopia are not available. A sizeable quantity apparently was produced in 1950, however, as the volume available for export in 1951 was reported at 1,300,000 bushels.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

U.S. FOREIGN TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS DURING JULY 1951 ^{1/}

United States agricultural exports during July 1951, the first month of fiscal 1951-52, amounted in value to \$248,255,000, an increase of 37 percent over the \$181,066,000 worth exported during July last year. The country's exports of all commodities, both agricultural and nonagricultural, during the month under review were valued at \$1,175,004,000 against \$767,765,000 in July 1950. Agricultural products represented 21 percent of the total compared with 24 percent in July a year ago.

On a value basis, wheat and wheat flour continued as the nation's most important agricultural export, with shipments for the month valued at \$67,893,000 compared with \$38,979,000 during the same month last year, an increase of 74 percent. Cotton continued in second place, but with exports valued at only \$31,823,000 a reduction of 32 percent from the \$46,137,000 shipped abroad in July last year. Leaf tobacco took third position valued at \$15,216,000 against \$11,554,000 in July last year, an increase of 32 percent.

On a quantitative basis, a comparison of July 1951 exports with those for the same month a year ago, reveals large increases in exports of many products, especially butter, cheese, evaporated milk, pork, lard, apples, grapefruit, oranges, barley, grain sorghums, wheat, shelled peanuts, soybeans and soybean oil, field and garden seeds, dried beans and peas and canned vegetables. On the other hand, the figures show large reduction in exports of a number of products, especially nonfat dry milk solids, beef and veal, tallow, cotton, pears, dried prunes, raisins and currants, canned fruits, rice, and hops.

Agricultural imports during July 1951 were valued at \$404,727,000, an increase of 22 percent over the \$332,132,000 worth imported during July 1950. Imports of all commodities, agricultural as well as nonagricultural, were valued at \$885,884,000 during the month under review against \$702,273,000 in July last year. Agricultural products constituted 46 percent of the July 1951 imports compared with 47 percent in July a year ago. As usual, the commodities heading the list were rubber, coffee, wool and sugar.

On a quantitative basis, a comparison of the July 1951 imports with those for July 1950 reveals large increases in imports of a number of products, especially canned and corned beef, cotton, pineapples, shelled almonds, Brazil nuts, coconut oil, molasses, leaf tobacco, white potatoes, and rubber. At the same time, however, especially large reductions took place in imports of live cattle, casein and lactarene, cheese, wool, jute, coconut meat, castor beans, copra, palm oil, tung oil, coffee, cocoa or cacao beans, tea and spices.

^{1/} Fuller details than presented in this summary will be published in United States Foreign Trade in Agricultural Products for July 1951, available on request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

UNITED STATES: Summary of exports, domestic, of selected
agricultural products, during July 1950 and 1951

| Commodity exported | Unit | July | | | |
|---|------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | | Quantity | | Value | |
| | | 1950 | 1951 | 1950 | 1951 |
| | | | | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| | | Thousands | Thousands | dollars | dollars |
| ANIMAL PRODUCTS: | | | | | |
| Butter | Lb. | 186 | 507 | 130 | 217 |
| Cheese | Lb. | 1,717 | 14,293 | 588 | 6,037 |
| Milk, condensed | Lb. | 2,699 | 2,466 | 621 | 562 |
| Milk, whole, dried | Lb. | 4,643 | 5,369 | 2,404 | 3,184 |
| Nonfat dry milk solids | Lb. | 17,704 | 5,859 | 1,855 | 778 |
| Milk, evaporated | Lb. | 6,291 | 15,596 | 821 | 2,311 |
| Eggs, dried | Lb. | 4,642 | 4,112 | 448 | 733 |
| Beef and veal, total 1/ | Lb. | 1,578 | 472 | 510 | 226 |
| Pork, total 1/ | Lb. | 4,481 | 5,851 | 1,153 | 1,859 |
| Horsemeat | Lb. | 1,411 | 1,639 | 145 | 170 |
| Lard (including neutral) | Lb. | 33,456 | 72,030 | 4,268 | 13,723 |
| Tallow, edible and inedible | Lb. | 48,177 | 27,953 | 3,224 | 4,475 |
| VEGETABLE PRODUCTS: | | | | | |
| Cotton, unmf'd, excl. linters (480 lb.) | Bale | 279 | 133 | 46,137 | 31,823 |
| Apples, fresh | Lb. | 3,292 | 4,277 | 298 | 252 |
| Grapefruit, fresh | Lb. | 5,941 | 8,654 | 282 | 347 |
| Oranges, fresh | Lb. | 41,908 | 61,902 | 1,610 | 2,032 |
| Pears, fresh | Lb. | 2,291 | 1,200 | 223 | 131 |
| Prunes, dried | Lb. | 3,303 | 715 | 467 | 135 |
| Raisins and currants | Lb. | 27,346 | 1,448 | 1,232 | 256 |
| Fruits, canned | Lb. | 5,672 | 3,558 | 817 | 603 |
| Fruit juices | Gal. | 1,681 | 1,476 | 1,617 | 1,104 |
| Barley, grain (48 lb.) | Bu. | 792 | 4,951 | 983 | 7,482 |
| Barley malt (34 lb.) | Bu. | 327 | 315 | 779 | 858 |
| Corn, grain (56 lb.) | Bu. | 7,089 | 6,516 | 11,268 | 12,785 |
| Grain sorghums (56 lb.) | Bu. | 4,760 | 5,282 | 5,764 | 7,460 |
| Rice, milled, brown, etc. | Lb. | 195,351 | 126,368 | 13,572 | 12,146 |
| Wheat, grain (60 lb.) | Bu. | 14,789 | 27,458 | 28,792 | 64,207 |
| Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.) | Bag | 1,977 | 602 | 8,182 | 3,032 |
| Flour, other (100 lb.) | Bag | 399 | 110 | 2,005 | 654 |
| Hops | Lb. | 561 | 163 | 407 | 149 |
| Peanuts, shelled | Lb. | 56 | 2,528 | 21 | 362 |
| Soybeans (except canned) | Lb. | 13,079 | 75,664 | 686 | 4,575 |
| Soybean oil, crude and refined | Lb. | 14,679 | 47,647 | 2,207 | 11,066 |
| Soybean flour | Lb. | 255 | 205 | 18 | 12 |
| Seeds, field and garden | Lb. | 289 | 3,538 | 105 | 553 |
| Tobacco, bright flue-cured | Lb. | 16,880 | 20,148 | 8,361 | 13,177 |
| Tobacco, leaf, other | Lb. | 7,021 | 3,661 | 3,193 | 2,039 |
| Beans, dried | Lb. | 11,074 | 18,451 | 808 | 1,303 |
| Peas, dried | Lb. | 1,306 | 6,583 | 68 | 355 |
| Potatoes, white | Lb. | 35,043 | 17,341 | 859 | 442 |
| Vegetables, canned | Lb. | 4,914 | 5,512 | 873 | 1,105 |
| Total above | | | | 157,801 | 214,720 |
| Food exported for relief, etc. | | | | 823 | 1,375 |
| Other agricultural products | | | | 22,442 | 32,160 |
| Total agricultural | | | | 181,066 | 248,255 |
| Total all commodities | | | | 767,765 | 1,175,004 |

1/ Product weight.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

UNITED STATES: Summary of imports for consumption
of selected agricultural products during July 1950 and 1951

| Commodity imported SUPPLEMENTARY | Unit: | July | | | |
|--|-------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| | | Quantity | | Value | |
| | | 1950 | 1951 | 1950 | 1951 |
| | | | | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS: | | Thousands: | Thousands: | dollars: | dollars: |
| Cattle, dutiable | No.: | 28 | 11 | 4,093 | 2,394 |
| Cattle, free (for breeding) | No.: | 2 | 1 | 560 | 498 |
| Casein and lactarene | Lb.: | 5,150 | 2,459 | 811 | 762 |
| Cheese | Lb.: | 3,564 | 2,454 | 1,651 | 1,154 |
| Hides and skins | Lb.: | 30,380 | 29,547 | 11,398 | 14,636 |
| Beef canned, incl. corned | Lb.: | 12,994 | 16,299 | 4,396 | 5,013 |
| Wool, unmf'd, excl. free, etc. | Lb.: | 31,162 | 26,736 | 20,772 | 40,995 |
| VEGETABLE PRODUCTS: | | | | | |
| Cotton, unmf'd., excl. lintors (480 lb.) | Bale: | 2 | 8 | 271 | 1,346 |
| Jute and jute butts, unmf'd. (2,240 lb.) | Ton : | 6 | 2 | 1,723 | 514 |
| Apples, green or ripe (50 lb.) | Bu.: | 1/ | 1/ | 1/ | 1/ |
| Olives in brine | Gal.: | 1,002 | 1,035 | 1,407 | 1,887 |
| Pineapples, prep. or preserved | Lb.: | 6,083 | 7,961 | 711 | 896 |
| Barley malt | Lb.: | 9,719 | 9,446 | 517 | 559 |
| Hops | Lb.: | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Almonds, shelled | Lb.: | 77 | 289 | 28 | 97 |
| Brazil or cream nuts, not shelled ... | Lb.: | 972 | 3,097 | 136 | 551 |
| Cashew nuts | Lb.: | 4,164 | 4,055 | 1,272 | 1,602 |
| Coconut meat, shredded, etc. | Lb.: | 12,083 | 8,095 | 1,945 | 1,210 |
| Castor beans | Lb.: | 10,378 | 8,509 | 548 | 912 |
| Copra | Lb.: | 72,899 | 59,321 | 6,072 | 5,179 |
| Flaxseed (56 lb.) | Bu.: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Coconut oil | Lb.: | 4,767 | 5,701 | 584 | 760 |
| Palm oil | Lb.: | 4,574 | 1,431 | 492 | 1,310 |
| Tung oil | Lb.: | 8,550 | 1,109 | 1,644 | 384 |
| Sugar, excl. beet (2,000 lb.) | Ton: | 337 | 351 | 34,213 | 38,655 |
| Molasses, unfit for human consumption | Gal.: | 17,956 | 21,457 | 910 | 4,348 |
| Tobacco, cigarette leaf | Lb.: | 4,130 | 6,063 | 3,064 | 4,033 |
| Tobacco, other leaf | Lb.: | 1,191 | 1,457 | 1,928 | 2,204 |
| Potatoes, white | Lb.: | 2,358 | 3,894 | 35 | 55 |
| Tomatoes, natural state | Lb.: | 393 | 462 | 63 | 38 |
| COMPLEMENTARY | | | | | |
| Wool, unmf'd., free in bond | Lb.: | 37,625 | 7,018 | 18,485 | 7,104 |
| VEGETABLE PRODUCTS: | | | | | |
| Bananas | Bunch | 4,246 | 4,520 | 4,630 | 5,006 |
| Coffee (ex. into Puerto Rico) | Lb.: | 238,189 | 164,896 | 105,153 | 86,563 |
| Cocoa or cacao beans | Lb.: | 58,145 | 34,415 | 15,828 | 11,750 |
| Tea | Lb.: | 10,874 | 7,173 | 4,911 | 3,245 |
| Spices (complementary) | Lb.: | 3,591 | 2,576 | 2,819 | 2,331 |
| Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.) | Ton: | 13 | 15 | 3,163 | 6,635 |
| Rubber, crude | Lb.: | 138,477 | 164,158 | 29,994 | 87,430 |
| Total above | | | | 286,228 | 342,059 |
| Other agricultural products | | | | 45,904 | 62,668 |
| Total agricultural products | | | | 332,132 | 404,727 |
| Total all commodities | | | | 702,273 | 885,884 |

1/ Less than 500.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

On balance, United States imports of agricultural products during July 1951 exceeded the value of agricultural exports by \$156,472,000. During the same month a year ago, agricultural imports exceeded agricultural exports in value by \$151,066,000.---By Leo J. Schaben.

MEDITERRANEAN BASIN 1951 WALNUT PRODUCTION SLIGHTLY BELOW LAST YEAR 1/

The 1951 preliminary estimate of walnut production in the leading commercial producing countries of the Mediterranean basin is 53,000 short tons, unshelled, compared with 57,400 tons (revised) in 1950 and 65,800 tons in 1949. The estimate is 3 percent below the 10-year (1940-49) average of 54,800 tons and 5 percent above the 5-year (1945-49) average of 50,600 tons.

Growing conditions throughout the Mediterranean walnut-growing areas were generally not as favorable as a year ago. Cool, wet weather is reported to have caused excessive drop in Italy and France. The harvest in most areas is later than normal. Turkey is the only country reporting a larger crop than a year ago.

The 1951-52 marketing year came to a close with an estimated carry-over of about 800 tons unshelled and not more than 100 tons of shelled remaining from the 1950 harvest. Italy is estimated to have about 500 short tons of unshelled, and France 200 tons unshelled and 100 tons of shelled. The balance is in Turkey. The present carry-over stocks are considerably below those of a year ago when Italy had about twice as many unshelled on hand as the 3 countries combined have this year.

The 1950-51 export season tonnage-wise for Italy, France and Turkey was a successful one. Official statistics for the entire season are not yet available; however, using such as are available and Trade estimates for the balance, it appears about 32,000 short tons, unshelled basis, were moved into international trade during the season. This represents about 66 percent of the estimated 1950 production for the 3 countries. This tonnage far exceeds that of the previous season. According to the available estimates there were about 14,000 short tons of unshelled exported of which Italy exported 11,191 tons or 80 percent, Turkey 1,225 tons or 9 percent and France the balance. The total estimated export of shelled walnuts from the 3 countries was 6,000 tons, of which Turkey exported 1,920 tons or 32 percent of the total, Italy 1,686 tons or 28 percent and France the balance.

Germany, followed by the United Kingdom, was the principal destination for unshelled, while the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany and the Scandinavian countries were the principal destinations for the shelled. The bulk of the exports to Germany was in the first months of the season. The United Kingdom was a consistent buyer most of the season. The United States purchased considerably more shelled walnuts than it did the previous season and over 4 times the 1945-49 average. In the 3 countries the season was one of the most active in the post-war period.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

WALNUTS, unshelled: Estimated commercial production in
specified countries, 1951 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

| Year | Balkan coun-tries | France | Italy | Turkey 1/ | Foreign Total | United States | World Total |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons |
| <u>Average:</u> | | | | | | | |
| 1940-49 | 12,500 | 20,000 | 15,000 | 7,300 | 54,800 | 68,500 | 123,300 |
| 1945-49 | 10,800 | 16,300 | 17,300 | 6,200 | 50,600 | 73,300 | 123,900 |
| <u>Annual</u> | | | | | | | |
| 1944 | 10,100 | 22,000 | 13,800 | 5,500 | 51,400 | 71,800 | 123,200 |
| 1945 | 9,800 | 12,100 | 16,500 | 2,000 | 40,400 | 70,900 | 111,300 |
| 1946 | 10,200 | 10,700 | 13,200 | 5,000 | 39,100 | 71,900 | 111,000 |
| 1947 | 9,700 | 32,000 | 14,000 | 2,200 | 57,900 | 64,600 | 122,500 |
| 1948 | 11,400 | 13,100 | 15,400 | 10,000 | 49,900 | 71,100 | 121,000 |
| 1949 | 13,000 | 13,300 | 27,500 | 12,000 | 65,800 | 88,100 | 153,900 |
| 1950 2/ | 8,800 | 17,600 | 22,000 3/ | 9,000 3/ | 57,400 3/ | 64,300 3/ | 121,700 |
| 1951 2/ | 8,000 | 16,300 | 19,200 | 9,500 | 53,000 | 74,900 | 129,900 |

1/ Exportable surplus only - not total production.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Revised.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, United States Department of Agriculture.
Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments,
reports of U. S. Foreign service officers, results of office research or other
information.

UNITED STATES: Imports and exports of walnuts

(Crop year, September-August)

| Countries | Average | | Annual | | | |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----|
| | 1945/46 | 1947-48 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1950-51 | 1/ |
| | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons | |
| IMPORTS - SHELLLED | | | | | | |
| China | 458 | 6 | 42 | 2,223 | 537 | |
| France | 44 | 5 | 32 | 185 | 648 | |
| Italy | 191 | 137 | 440 | 215 | 775 | |
| Turkey | 282 | 95 | 596 | 279 | 965 | |
| Other | 106 | 13 | 277 | 186 | 381 | |
| Total | 1,081 | 256 | 1,387 | 3,088 | 3,306 | |
| IMPORTS - UNSHELLED | | | | | | |
| China | 2/ | 2/ | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Italy | 31 | 3 | 34 | 3 | 0 | |
| Other | 5 | 0 | 2/ | 0 | 59 | |
| Total | 36 | 3 | 34 | 3 | 59 | |
| EXPORTS - SHELLLED | | | | | | |
| Canada | 137 | 364 | 135 | 9 | 2 | |
| Cuba | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2/ | 3 | |
| Europe | 2/ | 0 | 0 | 2/ | 0 | |
| Other | 36 | 44 | 49 | 18 | 24 | |
| Total | 174 | 413 | 185 | 27 | 29 | |
| EXPORTS - UNSHELLED | | | | | | |
| Canada | 1,201 | 784 | 467 | 1,126 | 976 | |
| Cuba | 270 | 253 | 294 | 353 | 484 | |
| Europe | 107 | 33 | 0 | 10 | 64 | |
| Other | 505 | 768 | 383 | 208 | 235 | |
| Total | 2,083 | 1,802 | 1,144 | 1,697 | 1,759 | |

1/ 11 months, September through July

2/ one-half ton or less.

Compiled from official sources of the Bureau of the Census.

The 1951-52 season now getting underway is starting much more slowly and with less prospects of repeating the previous year's performance. The crop in most countries abroad is from a week to 3 weeks late in harvest. The tonnage of the new crop in all but Turkey is below that of a year ago. The United States crop is up from that of 1950 and probably means fewer imports will be made. In addition, possible restrictive action on imports by the United States may also reduce the possible import tonnage. Germany, the principal buyer last season is not expected to enter the market for volume until late October because of the import license situation. Prices in all 3 countries are expected to be above those of last season unless growers abroad modify their impression of the value of their walnuts. In France, even if growers reduce their asking price, the cost of labor and packaging material is up from last year which means prices will be up regardless of what the grower does.

The early season inquiries for future delivery which were in heavy volume last year are few this year. Future sales are very light to date. It appears most foreign buyers are taking a wait-and-see attitude. This attitude appears to be prevalent in other nuts as well since relatively few sales of almonds and filberts have been reported to date. Last season because of the attractive prices and the Korean situation, foreign buyers rushed in early and made heavy commitments but this is not the case this year.

Exporters abroad generally are not unduly optimistic as to the outcome of the season. The Turkish deal appears at this time to be the most promising and Turkish exporters are the most sanguine. Turkish prices appear to be down slightly and early reports indicate much better quality than a year ago. Quality in Italy and France, depending on the weather to the end of harvest, may not be better than average and in some localities may be below that of last year. Exporters in some countries are a little worried by the large Turkish filbert crop and the new very competitive price structure for Spanish almonds and filberts.--By Walter R. Schreiber, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

HOPS

ESTIMATES OF BUMPER GERMAN HOPS CROP CONFIRMED

The official appraisal commission for the West German 1951 hops crop has just released figures, based upon a partially completed survey, which confirm earlier predictions of an exceptionally large crop this year. The latest estimate is for a crop amounting to 227,600 to 235,700 centners (25,088,000 to 25,981,000 pounds), according to the American Consul General at Munich. As the picking season progresses, unofficial estimates put the total harvest at as high as 270,000 centners (29,800,000 pounds).

German Hops Crops in 1950 and 1951

| Producing Districts | 1950 | | 1951 | |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| | Area | Crop 1/ | Area 2/ | Crop |
| | Hectares | Centners | Hectares | Centners |
| Hallertau | 4,735 | 139,226 | 5,042 | 165,000 - 170,000 |
| Spalt | 758 | 21,954 | 934 | 24,000 - 25,000 |
| Gersbrucker Gebirge.. | 480 | 12,870 | 630 | 15,000 - 16,000 |
| Jura | 51 | 1,044 | 83 | 1,600 - 1,700 |
| Wurttemberg | 208 | 4,402 | 400 | 5,000 |
| Tettang | 471 | 12,069 | 750 | 15,000 - 16,000 |
| Baden | 33 | 500 | 60 | 1,000 |
| Pfals | 20 | 651 | 40 | 1,000 |
| Total | 6,756 | 192,716 | 7,939 | 227,600 - 235,700 |

One hectare is equivalent to 2.471 acres and one centner to 110.23 pounds.

1/ A more accurate estimate of the total 1950 crop is 195,000 centners since the above estimate does not include locally-consumed hops and other small quantities which do not pass through the weighing halls.

2/ Includes 1,275 hectares of new plantings.

The anticipated large increase over last year's crop, which is unofficially estimated at 195,000 centners (21,495,000 pounds), has had a depressing effect on preliminary price quotations. Although hops sales have so far been in only moderate quantities, the price level is emerging at DM 450-500 (\$107.14 - \$119.05) per centner of 110.23 pounds. Brewers caught short have paid up to DM500 (\$119.05) per centner for top quality and DM 450-480 (\$107.14-\$114.29) for medium quality Hallertau hops. Prices for other hops, based on even smaller sales, are reported as follows: Spalt, DM 560 (\$133.33), Hersbruck, DM 440-470 (\$104.76-\$111.89), and Tettang, DM 400-460 (\$95.23-\$109.52). Dealers are reluctant to purchase at these prices.

Most observers believe that prices will not rise above these preliminary quotations. Growers are expected to ask for Government assistance on the ground that these prices do not cover production costs. In that connection, the dealer's association maintains that actual production costs range around DM 260 (\$61.90) per centner, and that they do not exceed DM 300 (\$81.43) even for marginal producers. The producer's association, on the other hand, claims that production costs range between DM 400-467 (\$95.24-\$110.99) per centner.

Brewers have already indicated that they will not purchase new crop hops at the unreasonably high prices asked during the past two years. Both the dealer's and the brewer's associations are of the opinion that the large crop, together with the increased availability of hops from Yugoslavia, the United Kingdom and the United States, will depress the German price level this season.

The producer's association, however, is rather optimistic about future price developments. In its opinion, breweries will take advantage of the bumper crop to lay in at least a 3 month's reserve in addition to covering their requirements for the 1951-52 brewing season. It has expressed the belief that the expected local demand together with increased interest abroad in German hops will maintain prices at a satisfactory level.

Estimating domestic requirements at 130,000 centners, a crop ranging from 230,000 to 250,000 centners would leave an exportable surplus of 120,000 to 140,000 centners of 110.23 pounds each. An official of the Hops Dealer's Association predicts that if a minimum export price is fixed it would not exceed \$125 per centner. He stated that a higher price, especially the \$140 per centner that has been mentioned, would make the disposal of the entire surplus a very difficult problem.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

CANADIAN LIVESTOCK -- RECENT DEVELOPMENTS 1/

The important developments in the Canadian Livestock Industry during the first 8 months of 1951 have been:

- (1) a sharp decline in the slaughter of cattle and of calves, especially of calves, and also in exports of cattle and calves to the United States;
- (2) a sharp increase in exports of beef to the United States;
- (3) a sharp decline in the slaughter of sheep and lambs;
- (4) a moderate decrease in the slaughter of hogs; and
- (5) advancing livestock prices that not only carried the prices of all classes to new all-time peaks but also carried these to the highest level ever reached relative to prices in United States markets.

As of late August, crop prospects pointed to record or near-record harvests of wheat, barley and oats and, because of the lateness of the season in the Prairie Provinces, the probability that there would be a large supply of wheat that would only grade as feeding wheat.

1/ A more extensive statement will be published soon as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

These developments point to prospective large increases in livestock numbers in Canada. Cattle numbers, which had been declining for 6 years, showed a small increase on December 1, 1950, over a year earlier, and on June 1, 1951, numbers were up 3 percent over the corresponding date in 1950. Sheep numbers are believed to have reached the bottom of their sharp decline and are expected to show a gain in numbers during 1951, the expansion encouraged by the relatively favorable prices of lambs and wool. A substantial increase in hog production has been fairly certain in view of the large supplies of feedgrains in prospect both from this year's production and the carry-over from last year. A very favorable hog-barley price relationship has prevailed for some months.

The United States regulation on slaughter, meat and livestock prices from April until August resulted in some abnormal price relationships between Chicago and Toronto. Prices in Toronto advanced to the abnormal situation of being \$1.50 above Chicago. Exports of live cattle from Canada to the United States fell off but exports of beef increased sharply. This would seem to indicate that the regulations and their operation permitted a relatively higher market price for live cattle in Toronto than in Chicago. This conclusion seems supported by the fact that United States imports of beef from Canada dropped off sharply after August 1, following an OPS regulation that prohibited the importation of beef purchased at prices above domestic ceilings at point of consignment.

Present indications are that the per capita consumption of meat in Canada will be smaller in 1951 than in 1950 and the smallest in 10 years. Per capita consumer expenditures for meat, however, will be larger than in 1950 and the largest on record. Despite increased consumer incomes in 1951, resulting from high employment and increased wages, consumers' expenditures for meat as a percentage of total expenditures will be higher than in 1950 and probably the highest on record.

DANISH HOG NUMBERS LEVELLING OFF

Danish hog numbers, according to the July 14, 1951 census, have levelled off somewhat after declining about 12 percent during the first 6 months of 1951. Hog numbers dropped about 21,000 head from the May census and were practically the same as in July, 1950.

The number of bred sows and total sows, however, declined about 12 and 13 percent, respectively, when compared to the previous May census. The large decrease in the number of bred sows indicates that the producers are inclined not to force production, but rather to hold back, until prospective economic conditions affecting future production are cleared. Normally the number of sows would have increased by this time of the year.

The number of suckling pigs had increased 120,000 head since May while the number of young pigs and slaughter hogs showed a decrease of 124,000 during the same period.

DENMARK: Hog numbers on July 14, 1951, with comparison

| Date | Sows | | Suckling pigs | Pigs and slaughter hogs | Total <u>1/</u> |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| | Bred | Total | | | |
| | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands |
| March 25, 1950.... | 236 | 353 | 688 | 2,161 | 3,214 |
| May 20, 1950..... | 273 | 374 | 637 | 2,127 | 3,150 |
| July 15, 1950..... | 267 | 401 | 858 | 1,936 | 3,208 |
| March 3, 1951..... | 229 | 366 | 812 | 2,350 | 3,541 |
| May 4, 1951..... | 239 | 357 | 679 | 2,173 | 3,221 |
| July 14, 1951..... | 211 | 340 | 799 | 2,049 | 3,200 |

1/ Includes boars.

Compiled from official sources.

RENEWAL OF MEXICAN MEAT EXPORTS BEING DISCUSSED

The Mexico City press has reported that the meat packing plants in Northern Mexico are again negotiating with the Ministries of National Economy and Finance to obtain export permits for canned and cured meat. This information has been confirmed by official sources.

It is understood that the plants are requesting permits for exporting 400,000 head of cattle during the next 12 months in the form of cured beef. In view of continued unsatisfactory range conditions in northern and northwestern Mexico, it is doubtful that this amount of cattle can be obtained for slaughter. Nevertheless, there appears to be a good possibility that the Government will grant sufficient export licenses to cover the maximum quantity of meat available for export.

SWISS 1951 LIVESTOCK CENSUS

Livestock inventories in Switzerland in April, 1951, showed an increase in cattle and decreases in hogs and horses from a year earlier.

Cattle numbers, which are increasing steadily, were 5 percent above 1950 but remain about 6 percent below the 1938 level. The number of cows increased approximately 3 percent from the preceding year, reflecting the decrease in the number of cows slaughtered.

Hog numbers showed a slight decline from 1950, principally in the category of pigs 4 to 6 months old. Increased consumer demand for pork last year resulted in about 100,000 more hogs slaughtered than in 1949. Hog breeding is facing an upward trend. The number of brood sows increased 8,000 head and at the time of the census 30,000 sows in farrow were recorded. High prices offered for suckling pigs have assisted in this upward tendency.

Sheep numbers are increasing, while horses and goats continue the downward trend.

SWITZERLAND: Number of livestock on farms, April 1, 1951, with comparison.

| Classification | 1938 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands | Census Thousands |
| Cattle, total..... | 1,701 | 1,478 | 1,530 | 1,607 |
| Cows..... | 913 | 839 | 858 | 885 |
| Hogs total..... | 923 | 887 | 908 | 892 |
| Brood sows..... | 72 | 79 | 72 | 80 |
| Sheep..... | 1/ 176 | -- | -- | 191 |
| Goats..... | 1/ 220 | -- | -- | 147 |
| Horses..... | 140 | 138 | 134 | 131 |

1/ 1936

Compiled from official sources.

U.K. TO PAY HIGHER PRICES FOR DANISH BACON

A ministry of Food press notice dated August 31, 1951 announced that effective September 3, 1951 and until October 1, 1952, the price of bacon purchased from Denmark will be increased to 262/5d per cwt. (32.8 U.S. cents per pound) f.o.b. for quantities up to 110 thousand tons (243 million pounds) annually, and for additional supplies the price will be 300/- (37.5 cents per pound) compared with 229/- (28.6 cents per pound) paid under last year's agreement. One reason given for the higher prices is to encourage production, but the increase also reflects the upward trend of world meat prices. It will contribute to Britain's difficulties associated with the rising cost of living.

TOBACCOINDIA'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION
REVISED DOWNWARD

India's 1950-51 tobacco production is now placed at 6 percent below earlier estimates, according to the American Embassy, New Delhi.

The country's 1950-51 leaf harvest is now officially estimated at 551.1 million pounds from 836,000 acres compared with earlier estimates of 586.9 million pounds from 826,000 acres. Leaf production in 1949-50 is now revised to 566.7 million pounds from 837,000 acres or considerably above an earlier estimate of 499.5 million pounds from 774,000 acres. The 1950-51 yield per acre is placed at 659 pounds compared with 677 pounds in 1949-50. Lower yield per acre during 1950-51 is primarily attributed to the prolonged drought in Bihar and part of Madras and also because of the presence of Powdery Mildew disease in certain districts of Madras.

CUBA INCREASES MINIMUM PRICE
FOR LEAF TOBACCO

According to a decree issued by the Cuban on August 23, 1951, the minimum prices to growers for the 1950-51 crop sun-grown leaf tobacco were increased about 10 percent, J.L. Martinez of the American Embassy in Havana reports.

Cuba's official minimum prices for sun-grown leaf were changed as follows: unstalked tobacco from \$22.50 per Spanish quintal (22.2 U.S. cents per pound) to \$25.00 per Spanish quintal (24.6 U.S. cents per pound); stalked from \$35.75 per Spanish quintal (35.2 U.S. cents per pound) to \$39.50 per Spanish quintal (38.9 U.S. cents per pound); strung tobacco and baled suckers of inferior grade remain unchanged at \$45.00 per Spanish quintal (44.4 U.S. cents); and \$40.00 per Spanish quintal (39.4 U.S. cents), respectively. These increased prices were reportedly a result of requests by members of the Tobacco Growers Association who are quoted as saying that the increases were necessary to cover production costs.

NEW ZEALAND'S UNMANUFACTURED
TOBACCO IMPORTS LOWER

New Zealand's imports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1950 were 5 percent below 1949, according to M.T. Foster, Agricultural Attache, Wellington.

The country's 1950 unmanufactured tobacco imports totaled 5.6 million pounds compared with 5.9 million pounds during 1949. The United States, the most important source of unmanufactured tobacco, supplied about 99 percent of all the 1950 imports. Indonesia, Cuba, Brazil, and Turkey supplied the remaining 1 percent. In addition to unmanufactured tobacco, New Zealand imported roughly 310 million cigarettes, 768 pounds of cigars, and 9,931 pounds of other manufactured tobacco. The United Kingdom supplied practically all manufactured tobacco products; however, the United States, Northern Rhodesia, Hong Kong, British West Indies, Australia, the Netherlands and Cuba also supplied small quantities of manufactured tobacco products.

TROPICAL PRODUCTSANOTHER LARGE CACAO CROP FORECAST
FOR BRITISH WEST AFRICA

British West African cacao production in 1951-52 may equal or slightly exceed the 1950-51 output, according to preliminary forecasts from official and unofficial sources. If crop conditions continue favorable, the total outturn of cacao beans in the Gold Coast and Nigeria in 1951-52 should amount to around 850 million pounds, compared with about 835 million in 1950-51, 800 million in 1949-50, and a record output of 865 million in 1948-49.

The official forecast of the Gold Coast's main crop is 585 million pounds, compared with an output of 579 million pounds from the 1950-51 main crop. The mid-crop in the Gold Coast should amount to about 20 million pounds; therefore, the total 1951-52 production tentatively is forecast at 605 million pounds. No official forecast for Nigeria is yet available, but semi-official and unofficial forecasts of Nigeria's 1951-52 main crop average about 235 million pounds, compared with about 237 million pounds from the 1950-51 main crop. If the mid-crop amounts to 10 million pounds, Nigeria's 1951-52 cacao production should total about 245 million pounds.

Purchases of mid-crop cacao were unusually light in 1950-51, particularly in the Gold Coast. This would seem to indicate that producers held back a substantial proportion of cacao beans from this crop to take advantage of the higher prices offered for the main crop. Purchasing of the 1951-52 main crop by the cacao Marketing Boards began on September 21 in the Gold Coast and the Western Provinces of Nigeria and on September 7 in Nigeria's Eastern Provinces. The price to be paid to Gold Coast producers for the 1951-52 main crop has been fixed at 18.7 cents a pound, an increase of 14 percent over the previous year. Prices in cents per pound to be paid to Nigerian cacao producers in 1951-52 are as follows: Grade I, main crop, 21.2; grade II, main crop, 19.4; grade I, mid-crop, 20.6; grade II, mid-crop, 18.8. This represents an average increase of about 42 percent above prices paid for the 1950-51 Nigerian cacao crop.

The Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources announced on August 28 that the fight against the Swollen Shoot disease had been abandoned in a devastated area of the Gold Coast, which includes parts of Akim Abuakwa and most of New Juaben and Akwapim. He said that the infection in this area was so great that all of the cacao trees would be destroyed in 7 years. Voluntary treatment by cutting out infected trees and by the use of the much-publicized new insecticide, Hannane, is continuing in other areas.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDSU.S. EXPORTS LESS
RICE IN 1950-51

United States rice exports in the August-July 1950-51 marketing year totaled 9,091,000 bags (100 pounds) in terms of milled rice compared with 11,221,000 bags in 1949-50. Record exports to Cuba comprised more than three-fourths of the total and shipments to Venezuela also were larger than last year's record to that country. Exports to Canada, however, dropped 19 percent from 1949-50, and to the British West Indies they were the smallest in 4 years. Curtailed shipments to Indonesia and Japan resulted in a further postwar reduction of the rice trade with the Far East.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries,
August-July, 1950-51, with comparisons 1/

(100-pound bags)

| Country of destination | Average 1937-38 to 1941-42 | 1946-47 | 1947-48 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 <u>2/</u> | 1950-51 <u>2/</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | 1,000 bags | 1,000 bags | 1,000 bags | 1,000 bags | 1,000 bags | 1,000 bags |
| Switzerland.... | 41 | <u>3/</u> | <u>3/</u> | 49 | 110 | 89 |
| Austria..... | <u>4/</u> | <u>3/</u> | 89 | 222 | 47 | 0 |
| Greece..... | 64 | 1 | 94 | 205 | 224 | 295 |
| Belgium and Luxembourg... | 66 | 1 | 1 | 75 | 277 | 162 |
| Other Europe... | 257 | 1 | 36 | 43 | 49 | 12 |
| Europe..... | 428 | 3 | 220 | 594 | 707 | 558 |
| Cuba..... | 2,750 | 4,650 | 5,268 | 5,223 | 6,119 | 6,965 |
| Canada..... | 194 | 240 | 538 | 454 | 469 | 381 |
| Venezuela..... | 20 | <u>3/</u> | <u>3/</u> | 148 | 220 | 326 |
| British West Indies..... | <u>3/</u> | 21 | 112 | 136 | 121 | 23 |
| Philippines.... | <u>3/</u> | 2,542 | <u>3/</u> | 1,256 | 18 | 0 |
| China..... | <u>5/</u> | 675 | 2,028 | 811 | 0 | 0 |
| Indonesia..... | <u>5/</u> | 0 | 14 | 886 | 1,733 | 9 |
| Japan..... | <u>5/</u> | 60 | <u>3/</u> | 19 | 1,367 | 326 |
| Korea..... | <u>5/</u> | 0 | 540 | 42 | 0 | 271 |
| Other countries: | 190 | 145 | 234 | 365 | 467 | 232 |
| Total..... | 3,582 | 8,336 | 8,954 | 9,934 | 11,221 | 9,091 |

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings, brewers rice, and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary.
3/ Less than 500 bags. 4/ Not separately classified. 5/ If any, included in "other countries".

July rice exports of 1,274,000 bags rose sharply from June and were to the following countries (1,000 bags): total Europe, 0.2; Cuba, 820; Canada, 11; Venezuela, 34; British West Indies, 0.5; Korea, 256; and Japan 127. The 1950-51 exports by classes were as follows: 469,000 bags of rough rice (305,000 in terms of milled); 420,000 bags of milled, containing not more than 25 percent broken rice; and 8,366,000 bags of milled, containing more than 25 percent broken rice, or a total of 9,091,000 bags.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON CONSUMPTION IN CHILE DECLINES

Consumption of cotton in Chile during the 1950-51 season totaled only 63,000 bales (500 pounds gross), about 9 percent below the 69,000 bales consumed during the preceding season, according to Philip M. Davenport, Consul, American Embassy, Santiago.

Demand for cotton textiles in Chile has declined in recent months, resulting in the accumulation of finished cotton goods at the mills and the decrease of consumption of raw cotton by the mills. At the beginning of the 1950-51 season mill operators were anxious to obtain as much cotton as possible, while at present demand for raw cotton by the mills has declined considerably awaiting a stabilization of world cotton prices. Stocks of raw cotton in Chile rose from 27,000 bales on August 1, 1950, to 35,000 bales on the same date in 1951.

The expansion of the Chilean textile industry has leveled off with about 174,000 spindles in place in 1950, compared with only 45,000 in 1940. During 1950 it was estimated that 5,000 looms were in place, almost double the number in Chile a decade before when 2,700 were installed.

Imports of cotton decreased considerably from 79,000 bales during 1949-50 to 71,000 bales during the 1950-51 season. About 45 percent of the total in 1950-51 originated in the United States, compared with 54 percent in 1949-50. Purchases from Peru showed a slight decline, while imports from Brazil were only 19 percent of 1949-50. Imports from Egypt increased greatly, largely due to the arrival during the 1950-51 season of sizeable quantities of cotton purchased in the previous season. More than 4,000 bales were imported from India during 1950-51.

The experiments with production of cotton in Chile, which were begun in 1948 and continued in 1950-51, could not be regarded as successful during the past season, with production amounting to only 5 bales. Approximately 250 acres were planted in 1950-51 at various places from Arica in the extreme north of the country near Peru to Coquimbo Province in the central area around Santiago. The experiment was generally unsuccessful because of the lack of adequate experience in cotton cultivation

on the part of the farmers and a lack of sufficient trained personnel to assist and supervise the farmers. In addition, the weather during 1950-51 in the central portion of the country was unfavorable to cotton. American seed gave better results than Peruvian Tanguis, which was used extensively before 1950-51. Tests revealed that although the fiber was immature and weak due to the poor weather conditions, the staple averaged 1 inch. Experimental plantings for the 1951-52 season have begun, confined more to Arica and Coquimbo where the greatest success has been found in the past. About 350 acres are expected to be planted during this season.

CHILE: Imports of raw cotton from major countries of origin,
average 1934-38; annual 1946-47 through 1950-51

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

| Country of origin | 5-year Average 1934-38 1/2 | 1946-47 | 1947-48 | 1948-49 | 1949-50 | 1950-51 |
|---|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| United States..... | 4,097 | 28 | 255 | 49,455 | 43,173 | 31,911 |
| Brazil..... | 0 | 7,910 | 15,131 | 14,098 | 14,697 | 2,802 |
| Peru..... | 5,820 | 45,525 | 35,849 | 8,896 | 18,372 | 15,986 |
| Argentina.....2/ | 92 | 3,265 | 243 | 524 | 0 | 0 |
| United Kingdom.....3/ | 98 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,153 |
| India..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,175 |
| Egypt | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,378 | 15,400 |
| Others..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,837 | 0 |
| Total..... | 10,013 | 56,788 | 51,478 | 72,973 | 79,457 | 71,427 |
| 1/ Calendar years. 2/ Two-year average. 3/ 1938 only. | | | | | | |

Comercio Exterior and Foreign Service Reports.

ARGENTINE COTTON PRODUCTION ABOVE EARLIER ESTIMATE

Production of cotton in Argentina in 1950-51 is now estimated by private sources at about 100,000 metric tons, or say roughly 460,000 bales (500 pounds gross). This is about 15 percent above an earlier estimate of 400,000 bales, but only 72 percent of the 1949-50 production of 643,000 bales, according to Cleveland B. McKnight, Assistant Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Buenos Aires.

The harvested acreage during 1950-51 totaled in round figures 1,142,000 acres, almost equal to the 1,141,000 acres harvested in the preceding season. The decrease in yield in 1950-51 is attributable to unfavorable growing conditions early in the season. However, improved weather conditions later in the season, combined with a late frost, permitted the harvesting of cotton late into July and resulted in an increase roughly of 60,000 bales in the estimates of the crop. Yields averaged about 1.93 pounds of lint per acre, somewhat below the average of 2.11 pounds for the previous 5 years.

The quality of the crop is believed to be much better than usual, with only small quantities falling in the 2 lower grades. The fiber was generally stronger, with a longer staple length, than usual. Damage from rain and frost later in the season were small, and the small crop enabled growers to pick promptly.

A larger 1950-51 cotton harvest than estimated earlier has helped to ease the short supply situation in Argentina. The world shortage of cotton during the past season, with the resulting increase in prices, stimulated heavy exports from Argentina. During the first 4 months of 1951, for example, exports totaled roundly 160,000 bales, compared with exports of only 161,000 bales during all of 1950. The countries receiving the largest portion of this cotton were Italy and the United Kingdom, with substantial quantities going to Spain, Japan, and the Netherlands. Mill consumption in 1950-51 has been estimated at 436,000 bales, somewhat above the 413,000 consumed in Argentine mills in 1949-50. Large exports, combined with increased domestic consumption and the prospects at that time of a crop of only 400,000 bales, led the Government to suspend all cotton exports on May 10, 1951, for an indefinite period. The ban is not expected to be lifted, with the exception of small quantities of low-grade cotton, until the next crop is harvested after March 1, 1952. Stocks of cotton decreased during 1950-51 from the extremely high level of 666,000 bales on August 1, 1950, to 400,000 bales on the same date of 1951. This quantity would be adequate for mill needs and reserves except for the fact that much of it is composed of low-grade cotton not used in significant quantities by the spinning mills.

(Cotton-Price Quotations on Page 356).

FATS AND OILS

FRENCH WEST AFRICAN PEANUT PROJECT IN 1951

The French West African peanut project at Sefa in the Casamance Valley in Senegal is expected to produce some 550 to 660 short tons of peanuts from about 2,470 acres in 1951, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Although the 1951 plantings represent a considerable increase from the initial 1,480 acres planted in 1950, the project is still far behind schedule. The original goal of some 75,000 acres first scheduled to be under cultivation by 1954 is not expected to be attained until 1958. It is hoped that peanut oil output from this projected area will reach approximately 11,000 tons by that year. The area planted in 1952 is expected to reach 6,200 acres, which would result in a peanut crop of about 1,380 tons under normal conditions.

The peanut project at Sefa is under the management of the Compagnie Generale des Oleagineux Tropicaux (CGOT), a corporation financed largely by the French Government.

Created in 1948 to increase France's domestic production of edible oils, CGOT was given responsibility for increasing Senegal's already important production of peanuts. Since an attempt to increase peanut production from land under cultivation would further deplete the soil, supplementary production was expected to be attained through large scale mechanized farming of new areas. The erroneous belief that the mechanical cultivation of peanuts as carried on in the United States could be applied more or less directly to West Africa was one of the principal physical factors that contributed to the project's failure to attain its theoretical goals. The development of new equipment, seed, and cultivation practices that are more closely adapted to West African growing conditions is presently being carried on by the project's experiment station.

VENEZUELA SEEKS PALM OIL MARKET

Venezuelan producers of palm oil, lacking an adequate local market, are seeking an outlet in the United States, reports J.H. Kempton, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Caracas. Currently production is at the rate of about 1.4 short tons of oil daily and as of early September the market had absorbed only 24 tons, leaving an unsold accumulation of 88 tons.

In addition the directors of the palm oil company have asked the Government for the same protection given local copra, that is, all the local product must be purchased (at a price set by the Government) before foreign supplies can be imported duty free. They also are attempting to obligate margarine makers to add palm oil to their product for its Vitamin A content.

African oil palms cover an area of 2,500 acres in Venezuela. The discontinuance of plantings was reported early in 1951, however, because of the failure to determine the cause of the palm disease which has been threatening the trees since early last year. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, March 19, 1951.) The manager of the palm oil company hopes to engage an American phytopathologist to give full time to the disease problem if the palm oil can be sold at a profit.

C O R R E C T I O N

In the article INDIA MODIFIES BASIS FOR EXPORT QUOTA OF CASTOR OIL in Foreign Crops and Markets, September 24, 1951, Vol. 63, No. 13, the last sentence should have read: "Exports of castor oil from India in 1950 amounted to 22,508 short tons."

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON WORLD MARKETSCOTTON AND OTHER FIBER
(Continued from page 354)

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

| Market location, kind, and quality | Date 1951 | Unit of weight | Unit of currency | Price in foreign currency | Equivalent U.S. cents per pound | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | Export Spot quo- tation | and inter- mediate taxes |
| <u>Alexandria</u> | | : Kantar | | | | |
| Ashmouni, Good..... | 9-27 | : 99.05 lbs. | : Tallari | : 82.60 | : 47.85 | : 2.95 |
| Ashmouni, FGF..... | " | : " | : " | : 76.35 | : 44.23 | : 2.95 |
| Karnak, Good..... | " | : " | : " | : 122.05 | : 70.70 | : 2.95 |
| Karnak, FGF..... | " | : " | : " | : (not quoted) | | |
| <u>Bombay</u> | | : Candy | | | | |
| Jarila, Fine..... | " | : 784 lbs. | : Rupee | : 1/ 820.00 | : 21.83 | : 21.30 |
| Broach Vijay, Fine.... | " | : " | : " | : 1/ 925.00 | : 24.62 | : 21.30 |
| <u>Karachi</u> | | : Maund | | | | |
| 4F Punjab, SG, Fine.... | 9-26 | : 82.28 lbs. | : " | : 72.00 | : 26.40 | : 13.85 |
| 289F Sind, SG, Fine.... | " | : " | : " | : 75.00 | : 27.50 | : 13.85 |
| 289F Punjab, SG, Fine.. | " | : " | : " | : 80.00 | : 29.33 | : 13.85 |
| <u>Buenos Aires</u> | | : Metric ton | | | | |
| Type B..... | 9-27 | : 2204.6 lbs. | : Peso | : 8100.00 | : 73.48 | : 7.76 |
| <u>Lima</u> | | : Sp. quintal | | | | |
| Tanguis, Type 3-1/2.... | 9-25 | : 101.4 lbs. | : Sol | : 2/ 515.00 | : 31.86 | : 10.55 |
| Tanguis, Type 5..... | " | : " | : " | : 490.00 | : 30.32 | : 8.97 |
| Pima, Type 1..... | " | : " | : " | : 700.00 | : 43.31 | : 20.97 |
| <u>Recife</u> | | : Arroba | | | | |
| Mata, Type 4..... | 9-27 | : 33.07 lbs. | : Cruzeiro | : 2/ 420.00 | : 69.10 | : 2.4% ad |
| Sertao, Type 5..... | " | : " | : " | : (not quoted) | | : valorem |
| Sertao, Type 4..... | " | : " | : " | : 2/ 450.00 | : 74.04 | : " " |
| <u>Sao Paulo</u> | | | | | | |
| Sao Paulo, Type 5..... | " | : " | : " | : 312.00 | : 51.33 | : 3.0% ad |
| <u>Torreon</u> | | : Sp. quintal | | | | : valorem |
| Middling, 15/16"..... | " | : 101.4 lbs. | : Peso | : 285.00 | : 32.52 | : 6.08 |
| <u>Houston-Galveston-New</u> | | | | | | |
| Orleans av.Mid. 15/16" | " | : Pound | : Cent | : XXXXX | : 37.03 | : ----- |

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Ceiling price.

2/ Nominal.

